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COMMISSIONER MICHAEL J. COPPS COMMENDS REPRESENTATIVE RICK BOUCHER ON HIS 26-YEARS OF PUBLIC SERVICE

"I was saddened last night to learn of the electoral loss of Representative Rick Boucher in the House. He has been an extraordinary public servant and a great leader across the whole gamut of telecommunications issues. His dedication to broadband, his leadership to reform Universal Service to make sure the wonders of advanced telecommunications are available to all our citizens, and his uncommon ability to bring contesting parties to the table to forge workable compromises are the stuff of legend.

"I hope Rick will keep speaking out on these issues and will share his wise counsel and good judgment with us and with the new leadership of the Subcommittee on Communications, Technology, and the Internet. Meanwhile Rick should derive enormous satisfaction from a job well and extraordinarily done.

"I also want to congratulate all of the victors in yesterday's elections. Our country is facing enormous challenges and it will take our combined efforts to overcome them. I look forward to working with all the members of the new Congress."